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AIR FORCE CAMBRIDGE RESEARCH LABORATORIES

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PUSHDOWN AUTOMATA WITH BOUNDED BACKTRACK

SCIENTIFIC REPORT NO. 7

Jeffrey Ullman

3 December 1965

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ABSTRACT

This report considers two classes of pushdown automata (pda), and the languages accepted by them. These pda accept their languages rapidly because they reread the input word a limited number of times. Hence, such languages are particularly useful as programming languages.

The first class, strong bounded backtrack pda, read input words from left to right, and jump from right to left (backtrack) at most k times for some integer k . The languages accepted by such automata will be shown to be equivalent to the finite unions of deterministic languages.

The second class, weak bounded backtrack pda, read each letter of the input word at most k times, although they may backtrack an arbitrary number of times. An alternative model envisioned for this device is one that has the storage space for k states and k pushdown tapes, but no more. The device reads a word from left to right, simulating the action of the pda. Every time the pda reaches a total configuration (state and pushdown tape) in which it is possible to read another input letter, that configuration is stored. If no move at all is possible in a given configuration, it is erased from storage. Thus one can accept the language with no backtrack without having to keep track of an arbitrary number of possible configurations of the pda.

Several results will be shown about each of these classes of pda, including operations that preserve the properties. While these properties are not preserved by all gsm mappings, it will be shown that information lossless gsm's preserve the weak bounded backtrack property, and information lossless gsm's of finite order preserve the strong bounded backtrack property.

PUSHDOWN AUTOMATA WITH BOUNDED BACKTRACK*

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to consider restrictions on pushdown automata causing them to accept or reject words in a simpler manner than the most general pushdown automaton. We will make two such related definitions and study their closure properties under various operations, such as intersection with regular sets. One restriction will be shown to be equivalent to the restriction that a language be the finite union of deterministic languages, and some results about deterministic languages will be shown.

Definition. A pushdown automaton (pda) $[2,4]$, M , is a 7-tuple $(K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$, where K is the finite nonempty set of states, Σ is the finite nonempty set of pushdown tape symbols, δ is a mapping from $K \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \times \Gamma^{(1)}$ to the finite subsets of $K \times \Gamma^*$, Z_0 in Γ is the initial tape symbol, q_0 in K is the initial state, and $F \subseteq K$ is the set of acceptable final states.

Definition. For a pda, M , let \vdash_M (or \vdash when M is understood) be the relation on $K \times \Sigma^* \times \Gamma^*$ such that $(q_1, w_1, \gamma_1) \vdash_M (q_2, w_2, \gamma_2)$ if and only if there is some a in $\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$, Z in Γ , γ_1' and γ in Γ^* such that $w_1 = aw_2$, $\gamma_1 = \gamma_1'Z$, $\gamma_2 = \gamma_1'\gamma$, and (q_2, γ) is in $\delta(q_1, a, Z)$.

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(1) ϵ is the string of zero length. Also, for a set X , we will use X^* as the closure of X under concatenation, $X^* = \bigcup_{i \geq 0} X^i$, and \emptyset to stand for the null set.

Let \vdash_M^* (or \vdash^* when M is understood) be the relation on $K \times \Sigma^* \times \Gamma^*$ such that for x and y in $K \times \Sigma^* \times \Gamma^*$, $x \vdash^* y$ if and only if for some z , $x \vdash^* z$ and $z \vdash y$, or $x = y$. Let \vdash_M^d or \vdash^d be the relation on $K \times \Sigma^* \times \Gamma^*$ such that $x \vdash^d y$ if and only if $x \vdash y$, $y = (q, w, \gamma Z)$, Z in Γ , and there is some a in Σ such that $\delta(q, a, Z) \neq \emptyset$. Finally, let \vdash_M^{d*} or \vdash^{d*} be defined as \vdash^d but with \vdash^* in place of \vdash .⁽²⁾

Intuitively, we suppose that if (q, γ) is in $\delta(p, a, Z)$, then the pda has the option, if Z is the symbol at the top of the pushdown tape, and a is the first input symbol, or ϵ , of moving from state q to state p , replacing Z by the (possibly empty) string γ , and erasing a from the input tape. The set of words, w , such that for some p in F , and γ in Γ^* , $(q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash_M^* (p, \epsilon, \gamma)$ is the set of words "accepted" by M , often denoted $T(M)$. The sets of words accepted by some pda are exactly those sets that are context free languages [1].⁽³⁾

We shall define two different, related restrictions on pda implying that, in some sense, the languages accepted by pda, meeting the restriction, are easily compiled. The first, called "strong bounded backtrack," implies that

(2) Note that if M is deterministic, and $x \vdash^{d*} y$, then $x \vdash^{d*} y$ in the sense of [6,7], but the converse is not necessarily true.

(3) A context free language is a set generated by a grammar $G = (V, \Sigma, P, \sigma)$, where V is a finite vocabulary, $\Sigma \subseteq V$ is the set of terminal symbols, P a set of ordered pairs (τ, w) where τ is in $V - \Sigma$ and w in V^* , and σ in $V - \Sigma$. The strings generated by G are defined: σ is a string, and if $u\tau v$ is a string, u and v in V^* , and τ in $V - \Sigma$, and (τ, w) is in P , then uwv is a string generated by G . The language generated by G is the set of strings generated G intersected with Σ^* .

for some integer, k , we may determine whether or not a word, w , is accepted by a process that scans w from left to right and "backtracks" (jumps from right to left and restores the state and pushdown tape to the condition that prevailed when the new point of scan was last reached) at most k times.

The second restriction, called "weak bounded backtrack", implies that for some integer, k , and any word, w , we may determine whether or not w is accepted, by a process that scans each symbol of w at most k times. Alternatively, if we have space in memory for k copies of the pda, we may scan w only once, assigning various actions of the pda to the several copies. A more formal discussion follows.

Notation. For a set X , we will let $\#X$ represent the cardinality of X .

For x and y , words over some common alphabet, the relation $x \leq y$ shall hold if and only if there is some word, v , such that $xv = y$. Note that v may be ϵ .

For a given pda, $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$, x and y strings in $(K\Sigma^*\Gamma^*)^*$ let the relation xJy hold if and only if, for some w in Σ^* , $x = q_0 w_0 \gamma_0 q_1 w_1 \gamma_1 \dots q_n w_n \gamma_n$ and $y = q_0 w_0 w \gamma_0 q_1 w_1 w \gamma_1 \dots q_n w_n w \gamma_n q_{n+1} w_{n+1} \gamma_{n+1} \dots q_m w_m \gamma_m$, where $0 \leq n \leq m$, and for $0 \leq i \leq m$, q_i is in K , w_i is in Σ^* and γ_i is in Γ^* .

We will here, and throughout the paper, assume that the set of states, set of tape symbols, and set of input symbols for any pda, are mutually disjoint.

Definition. For pda, $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$, let $P_M(w)$ be the set $\{q_0 w_0 \gamma_0 q_1 w_1 \gamma_1 \dots q_n w_n \gamma_n / \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq n, q_i \text{ is in } K, w_i \text{ in } \Sigma^*, \text{ and } \gamma_i \text{ in } \Gamma^*, w_0 = w, \gamma_0 = Z_0, w_n = \epsilon, \text{ for } 0 \leq i < n, (q_i, w_i, \gamma_i) \vdash (q_{i+1}, w_{i+1}, \gamma_{i+1}) \text{ and for no } q \text{ and } \gamma \text{ is } (q_n, \epsilon, \gamma_n) \vdash (q, \epsilon, \gamma) \text{ true}\}$.

Let $Q_M(x, y)$ be the binary function from $\Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$ to the subsets of $(K\Sigma^*\Gamma^*)^*$ defined as follows:

$$Q_M(x, x) = P_M(x)$$

If it is false that $x \leq y$, $Q_M(x, y) = \emptyset$.

For a in Σ and w in Σ^* , let $Q_M(x, xaw) = \{y/y \text{ is in } P_M(x) \text{ and for all } z \text{ such that } yJz, z \text{ is not in } P_M(xa)\}$.

Definition. A pda M is said to be a strong bounded backtrack (sbb) pda with bound k if and only if M has no infinite loops with input $\epsilon^{(4)}$, and for some integer k , and any x in Σ^* , there are no more than k elements, y , in $(K\Sigma^*\Gamma^*)^*$ such that for some $z \leq x$, y is in $Q_M(z, x)$.

Intuitively, $P_M(x)$ represents the set of responses of M to word x , for which the entire word x is input to M , and M cannot operate further without a non- ϵ input. $Q_M(y, x)$ represents the responses to x for which, after reading the proper initial subword y , of x , M can make no move that will enable it to read the next symbol of x . Thus the sbb property bounds the number of distinct paths a pda may traverse while reading any word, a path, of course, being any succession of triple s consisting of state, remaining input word, and pushdown tape contents.

Definition. For the pda $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$, let $R_M(x) = \{(q, \gamma)/(q_0, x, Z_0) \vdash_M^* (q, \epsilon, \gamma)\}$.

⁽⁴⁾ M has an infinite loop with input ϵ if for some w in Σ^* and $q_1, \gamma_1, q_2, \gamma_2, \dots, q_1, \gamma_1, \dots$ there exists an infinite sequence, $(q_0 w, Z_0) \vdash^* (q_1, \epsilon, \gamma_1) \vdash (q_2, \epsilon, \gamma_2) \vdash \dots \vdash (q_1, \epsilon, \gamma_1) \vdash (q_{i+1}, \epsilon, \gamma_{i+1}) \vdash \dots$

A pda will be said to be of weak bounded backtrack (wbb) with bound R if for some integer k and any x in Σ^* , $\#R_M(x) \leq k$.

A language will be said to be of sbb (wbb) if it is accepted by some sbb (wbb) pushdown automaton.

Definition. The pda M as above will be said to be deterministic [6,8,10] if for all q, a and Z in $K, \Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$ and Γ respectively, $\#\delta(q, a, Z) \leq 1$, and if $\delta(q, \epsilon, Z) \neq \emptyset$, then for all a in Σ , $\delta(q, a, Z) = \emptyset$.

Intuitively, a deterministic pda is one for which, for any input word, at most one response is possible.

Section 1. Strong Bounded Backtrack and Deterministic Languages

The primary result of this section is that every sbb language is the union of a finite number of deterministic languages. For this result we need several lemmas.

Lemma 1.1. A deterministic language is an sbb language.

Proof. We will show that every loop-free deterministic pda satisfies the definition of strong bounded backtrack, with a bound of $k = 1$. It has been shown [6] that every language accepted by a deterministic pda is accepted by a loop-free deterministic pda. Let $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$ be such a pda. Suppose that there exist y and y' such that either y and y' are in $Q_M(v, x)$ for some v and x such that $v \leq x$, or y is in $Q_M(v, x)$ and y' is in $Q_M(v', x)$ for distinct v and v' such that $v \leq v' \leq x$.

In the first case, suppose that $y = q_0 v Z_0 q_1 v_1 \gamma_1 \dots q_n v_n \gamma_n$ and $y' = q_0 v Z_0 q_1 v'_1 \gamma'_1 \dots q_m v'_m \gamma'_m$. Without loss of generality, we may assume that $n \leq m$.

Since M is deterministic, for $1 \leq i \leq n$, $q_i = q'_i$, $v_i = v'_i$ and $\gamma_i = \gamma'_i$. If $m = n$, then $y = y'$, so we may assume $n < m$. But then $(q_0, v, Z_0) \vdash^* (q_n, \epsilon, \gamma_n) \vdash^* (q_m, \epsilon, \gamma_m)$, contradicting the assumption that y was in $P_M(v)$.

In the second case, suppose $y = q_0 v Z_0 q_1 v_1 \gamma_1 \dots q_n v_n \gamma_n$ and $y' = q_0 v' Z_0 q'_1 v'_1 \gamma'_1 \dots q'_m v'_m \gamma'_m$. Then since M is deterministic, and v is a proper initial subword of v' , for $1 \leq i \leq n$, it must be the case that $q_i = q'_i$, $\gamma_i = \gamma'_i$ and $v'_i = v_i v'_n$. But then there must be some a in Σ such that $va \leq v'$ and a largest s such that $y'' = q_0 va Z_0 q_1 v_1 a \gamma_1 \dots q_n v_n a \gamma_n \dots q'_s \epsilon \gamma'_s$ and $y'' J y'$. Since M is loop free, either y'' is in $P_M(va)$, or there will be some finite sequence $(q'_s, \epsilon, \gamma'_s) \vdash (q''_1, \epsilon, \gamma''_1) \vdash (q''_2, \epsilon, \gamma''_2) \vdash \dots \vdash (q''_t, \epsilon, \gamma''_t)$, such that $y''' = y'' q''_1 \gamma''_1 q''_2 \gamma''_2 \dots q''_t \gamma''_t$ is in $P_M(va)$ and in either case, $P_M(va)$ is not empty, so y could not be in $Q_M(v, x)$. We thus conclude that M is a sbb machine with a bound of one.

Lemma 1.2. The union of sbb languages is a sbb language. Also, the union of wbb languages is a wbb language.

Proof. Let $M_1 = (K_1, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta_1, Z_0, q_0, F_1)$ and $M_2 = (K_2, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta_2, Z_0, q'_0, F_2)$ and assume that $K_1 \cap K_2 = \emptyset$. Let q''_0 not be in $K_1 \cup K_2$, $K = K_1 \cup K_2 \cup \{q''_0\}$ and $F = F_1 \cup F_2$. Define δ as follows:

$$\delta(q, a, Z) = \delta_1(q, a, Z) \text{ for } q \text{ in } K_1, a \text{ in } \Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\} \text{ and } Z \text{ in } \Gamma$$

$$\delta(q, a, Z) = \delta_2(q, a, Z) \text{ for } q \text{ in } K_2, a \text{ in } \Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\} \text{ and } Z \text{ in } \Gamma$$

$$\delta(q''_0, \epsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_0, Z_0), (q'_0, Z_0)\}$$

$$\delta(q''_0, a, Z_0) = \emptyset \text{ for } a \text{ in } \Sigma$$

Consider the pda $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q''_0, F)$. Surely, $T(M) = T(M_1) \cup T(M_2)$. Also, it is easy to see for any x in Σ^* , that y is in $R_{M_1}(x) \cup R_{M_2}(x)$ if and only if $q''_0 x Z_0 y$ is in $R_M(x)$. Hence, $\#R_M(x) \leq \#R_{M_1}(x) + \#R_{M_2}(x)$, so that if M_1 and M_2 are wbb machines, M is a wbb machine.

Likewise, y is in $P_{M_1}(x) \cup P_{M_2}(x)$ if and only if $q_0''xZ_0y$ is in $P_M(x)$. Suppose y is in $Q_M(v,x)$ for some v , a proper initial subword of x . Then $y = q_0''vZ_0y'$ for some y' in $P_{M_1}(v) \cup P_{M_2}(v)$. Say y' is in $P_{M_1}(v)$ without loss of generality. Suppose there is an a^2 in Σ and z in $P_{M_1}(va)^1$ such that $y'Jz$. Then $yJq_0''vaZ_0z$, which contradicts the assumption that y is in $Q_M(v,x)$. Thus $\#Q_M(v,x) \leq \#Q_{M_1}(v,x) + \#Q_{M_2}(v,x)$ for all $v \leq x$, and if M_1 and M_2 are sbb machines, M will be likewise.

Definition. Given a pda $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$, a branch point is an element (q, a, Z) of $K \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \times \Gamma$ such that if a is in Σ , $\#\delta(q, a, Z) + \#\delta(q, \epsilon, Z) \geq 2$ and $\delta(q, a, Z) \neq \emptyset$. If $a = \epsilon$, then either $\#\delta(q, \epsilon, Z) \geq 2$ or $\delta(q, \epsilon, Z) \neq \emptyset$ and for some b in Σ , $\delta(q, b, Z) \neq \emptyset$.

Lemma 1.3. If $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$ is sbb with bound k , $(q_0, x_0, \gamma_0) \vdash (q_1, x_1, \gamma_1) \vdash \dots \vdash (q_n, x_n, \gamma_n)$, where $\gamma_0 = Z_0$ and $x_n = \epsilon$, and for $0 \leq i < n$, a_i in $\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$ is defined by $a_i x_{i+1} = x_i$ and Z_i in Γ is defined by $\gamma_i = \gamma_i' Z_i$ for some γ_i' in Γ^* , then $\#\{(q_i, a_i, Z_i) / (q_i, a_i, Z_i) \text{ is a branch point and } i < n\} \leq k-1$.

Proof. Suppose $(q_{b(1)}, a_{b(1)}, Z_{b(1)}), (q_{b(2)}, a_{b(2)}, Z_{b(2)}), \dots, (q_{b(k)}, a_{b(k)}, Z_{b(k)})$ are k branch points, not necessarily distinct, but with $b(i) < b(j)$ for $i < j$, and $b(k) < n$. Then for $1 \leq i \leq k$, $(q_{b(i)}, x_{b(i)}, \gamma_{b(i)}) \vdash (q_i', x_i', \gamma_i')$, where either $q_i' \neq q_{b(i)+1}$ or $x_i' \neq x_{b(i)+1}$ or $\gamma_i' \neq \gamma_{b(i)+1}$. Then, since M has no infinite loops, either for some q_i'' and γ_i'' , $(q_0, x_0, \gamma_0) \vdash^* (q_{b(i)}, x_{b(i)}, \gamma_{b(i)}) \vdash (q_i', x_i', \gamma_i') \vdash^* (q_i'', \epsilon, \gamma_i'')$ and for no q in K and γ in Γ^* does $(q_i'', \epsilon, \gamma_i'') \vdash (q, \epsilon, \gamma)$, or for some q_i'' , x_i'' and γ_i'' , $(q_0, x_0, \gamma_0) \vdash^* (q_{b(i)}, x_{b(i)}, \gamma_{b(i)}) \vdash (q_i', x_i', \gamma_i') \vdash^* (q_i'', x_i'', \gamma_i'')$ and if a is in $\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$, and $x_i'' = ax_i'''$, for x_i''' in Σ^* , then for no q and γ does $(q_i'', x_i'', \gamma_i'') \vdash (q, x_i''', \gamma)$.

In the first case, there is a y_i in $Q_M(x_0, x_0)$, and in the second, a y_i in $Q_M(x, x_0)$, where $xx_i'' = x_0$. Also, there must be a y in $Q_M(x_0, x_0)$ such that

$q_0 x_0 \gamma_0 q_1 x_1 \gamma_1 \dots q_n x_n \gamma_n J y$. It should be easy to see that $y \neq y_i$ for any i , and that for distinct i and j , $y_i \neq y_j$. Thus, there would be at least $k+1$ elements in $\bigcup_{u \leq x_0} Q_M(u, x_0)$, which violates the assumption that M is sbb with bound k .

Lemma 1.4. An sbb language is the finite union of deterministic languages.

Proof. Let $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$ be an sbb pushdown automaton with bound k on backtrack. Let M have branch points B_1, B_2, \dots, B_e , certainly a finite number.

If $B_i = (q_i, a_i, Z_i)$, q_i in K , a_i in $\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$, and Z_i in Γ , has f_i members in $\delta(q_i, a_i, Z_i)$, let these be known as $C_{i1}, C_{i2}, \dots, C_{if_i}$. Consider the set $S =$

$\{(C_{i_1 j_1}, C_{i_2 j_2}, \dots, C_{i_{k-1} j_{k-1}}) / 1 \leq i_n \leq e \text{ and } 1 \leq j_n \leq f_{i_n} \text{ for } 1 \leq n \leq k-1\}$.

Also, define $K' = \{q^{(i)} / q \text{ in } K \text{ and } 1 \leq i \leq k\}$ and $F' = \{q^{(i)} / q \text{ in } F \text{ and } 1 \leq i \leq k\}$.

Then for each s in S , define $M_s = (K', \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta_s, Z_0, q_0^{(1)}, F')$, where δ_s is defined as follows:

If (q, a, Z) in $K \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \times \Gamma$ is not a branch point, $\delta_s(q^{(i)}, a, Z) = \{(p^{(i)}, \gamma)\}$ if $\delta(q, a, Z) = \{(p, \gamma)\}$ and $\delta_s(q^{(i)}, a, Z) = \emptyset$ if $\delta(q, a, Z) = \emptyset$, for all i , $1 \leq i \leq k$.

If for some m , $1 \leq m \leq k-1$, the m^{th} coordinate of s is $C_{i_m j_m} = (p, \gamma)$, and (q, a, Z) is the i_m^{th} branch point, let $\delta_s(q^{(m)}, a, Z) = \{(p^{(m+1)}, \gamma)\}$. Otherwise, let $\delta_s(q^{(m)}, a, Z) = \emptyset$.

It is easy to see that each M_s so defined is deterministic. If $(q_0^{(1)}, x, Z_0) \vdash_{M_s} (q_1^{(i_1)}, x_1, \gamma_1) \vdash_{M_s} \dots \vdash_{M_s} (q_n^{(i_n)}, \epsilon, \gamma_n)$, then certainly, $(q_0, x, Z_0) \vdash_M (q_1, x_1, \gamma_1) \vdash_M \dots \vdash_M (q_n, \epsilon, \gamma_n)$, so that $T(M_s) \subseteq T(M)$. Hence, $\bigcup_{s \text{ in } S} T(M_s) \subseteq T(M)$.

Now we must show that $T(M) \subseteq \bigcup_{s \text{ in } S} T(M_s)$. Suppose that x is in $T(M)$. Then $(q_0, a_0 x_0, \gamma_0 Z_0) \vdash_M (q_1, a_1 x_1, \gamma_1 Z_1) \vdash_M \dots \vdash_M (q_n, a_n x_n, \gamma_n Z_n)$ where $a_0 x_0 = x$,

$a_{i+1}x_{i+1} = x_i$ for $0 \leq i < n$ and $\gamma_0 = a_n = x_n = \epsilon$. From Lemma 1.3, at most $k-1$ of the triplets (q_i, a_i, Z_i) , $0 \leq i < n$ are branch points. Let these be

$(q_{b(1)}, a_{b(1)}, Z_{b(1)}), (q_{b(2)}, a_{b(2)}, Z_{b(2)}), \dots, (q_{b(k')}, a_{b(k')}, Z_{b(k')})$ for some $k' \leq k-1$. Define γ'_i by $\gamma_{b(i)+1}Z_{b(i)+1} = \gamma_{b(i)}\gamma'_i$, $1 \leq j_i \leq k'$. Then $(q_{b(i)}, a_{b(i)}, Z_{b(i)})$ is B_{g_i} and $(q_{b(i)+1}, \gamma'_i)$ is some $C_{g_i j_i}$, for $1 \leq i \leq k'$, $1 \leq g_i \leq e$ and $1 \leq j_i \leq f_{g_i}$. Let $s = (C_{g_1 j_1}, C_{g_2 j_2}, \dots, C_{g_{k'} j_{k'}}, C_{11}, C_{11}, \dots, C_{11})$ have

exactly $k-1$ components, the right-hand C_{11} 's being used only if $k' < k-1$. Then

M_s accepts x . For $(q_0^{(1)}, a_0 x_0, \gamma_0 Z_0) \mid_{M_s}^* (q_{b(1)}^{(1)}, a_{b(1)} x_{b(1)}, \gamma_{b(1)} Z_{b(1)}) \mid_{M_s}^* (q_{b(1)+1}^{(2)}, a_{b(1)+1} x_{b(1)+1}, \gamma_{b(1)+1} Z_{b(1)+1}) \mid_{M_s}^* \dots \mid_{M_s}^* (q_{b(k')}^{(k')}, a_{b(k')} x_{b(k')}, \gamma_{b(k')} Z_{b(k')}) \mid_{M_s}^* (q_{b(k')+1}^{(k'+1)}, a_{b(k')+1} x_{b(k')+1}, \gamma_{b(k')+1} Z_{b(k')+1}) \mid_{M_s}^* (q_n^{(k'+1)}, a_n x_n, \gamma_n Z_n)$, where $a_0 x_0 = x$, $a_{i+1} x_{i+1} = x_i$, for $0 \leq i < n$, $\gamma_0 = a_n = x_n = \epsilon$, and $q_n^{(k'+1)}$ is in F' .

Theorem 1.1. A language is sbb if and only if it is the finite union of deterministic languages.

Proof. Immediate from Lemmas 1.1, 1.2, and 1.4.

Definition. An operation, f , that maps sets to sets is said to be additive if for any set S , $f(S) = \bigcup_{x \in S} f(\{x\})$.⁽⁵⁾

Lemma 1.5. If f is an additive operation that preserves deterministic languages, f preserves sbb languages.

Proof. If L is an sbb language, by Theorem 1.1, for some integer k and deterministic languages L_1, L_2, \dots, L_k , we have $L = \bigcup_{i=1}^k L_i$. Then $f(L) = f(\bigcup_{i=1}^k L_i) =$

$f(\bigcup_{i=1}^k \bigcup_{w \in L_i} w) = \bigcup_{i=1}^k [\bigcup_{w \in L_i} f(w)] = \bigcup_{i=1}^k f(L_i)$. Since $f(L_i)$ is deterministic,

⁽⁵⁾From here, we will use $f(x)$ for $f(\{x\})$. No confusion will arise.

$f(L)$ is the finite union of deterministic languages.

Theorem 1.2. The following operations preserve sbb languages (L is an sbb language, and R a regular set⁽⁶⁾): a) $L \cap R$ b) $L-R$ c) $L/R = \{u/ \text{ for some } v \text{ in } R, uv \text{ is in } L\}$ d) $LR = \{uv/u \text{ in } L \text{ and } v \text{ in } R\}$ e) $G^{-1}(L)$ for any generalized sequential machine mapping, G ⁽⁷⁾ f) $\text{Init}(L) = \{u/ \text{ for some string } v, uv \text{ is in } L\}$ g) $f_c(L) = \{u/ucv \text{ is in } L \text{ for some string } v \text{ and } u \text{ contains no occurrence of } c\}$.

Proof. Each of the above operations is easily seen to be additive, and each was shown to preserve deterministic languages in [6].

Section 2. Operations on Weak Bounded Backtrack Languages

Having disposed of several important questions regarding operations that preserve the sbb property, we will now proceed to consider the same questions for wbb languages. The properties of sbb and wbb languages turn out to be quite similar, and in fact, all the operations in Theorem 1.2 can be shown to preserve wbb languages. To begin, we prove the following simple but important theorem:

(6) The regular sets form the smallest class of sets containing the finite sets and closed under union, concatenation and closure (*) [9]. Alternatively, a regular set is a set accepted by some finite automaton [11].

(7) A generalized sequential machine [5] (gsm) is a six-tuple $(K, \Sigma, \Delta, \delta, \lambda, q_0)$ where K is the finite nonempty set of states, Σ the finite nonempty set of input symbols, and Δ the finite nonempty set of output symbols. δ is a mapping from $K \times \Sigma$ to K , and λ , a mapping from $K \times \Sigma$ to Δ^* . q_0 is the initial state, a member of K . We may extend δ and λ to $K \times \Sigma^*$ by $\delta(q, \epsilon) = q, \lambda(q, \epsilon) = \epsilon$ and for w in Σ^* and a in Σ , $\delta(q, wa) = \delta(\delta(q, w), a)$ and $\lambda(q, wa) = \lambda(q, w) \lambda(\delta(q, w), a)$. The corresponding gsm mapping takes any word w in Σ^* to $\lambda(q_0, w)$. The inverse gsm mapping is, of course, the mapping which takes u in Δ^* to the set of w in Σ^* for which $u = \lambda(q_0, w)$.

Theorem 2.1. The intersection or difference of a wbb language and a regular set is a wbb language.

Proof. Let $L = T(M)$ for wbb pda $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$, and $R = T(A)$ for finite automaton $A = (K_A, \Sigma, \delta_A, p_0, F_A)$.⁽⁸⁾ Consider the pda $N = (K \times K_A, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta', Z_0, (q_0, p_0), F')$, where $\delta'((q, p), a, Z) = \{((q', p'), \gamma) / \delta_A(p, a) = p' \text{ and } \delta(q, a, Z) \text{ contains } (q', \gamma)\}$, for all a in Σ , q and q' in K , p and p' in K_A , and Z in Γ . Also, $\delta'((q, p), \epsilon, Z) = \{((q', p'), \gamma) / \delta(q, \epsilon, Z) \text{ contains } (q', \gamma), \text{ for } q \text{ and } q' \text{ in } K, p \text{ in } K_A \text{ and } Z \text{ in } \Gamma\}$.

It is clear that $((q_0, p_0), w, Z_0) \stackrel{*}{\vdash}_N ((q, p), \epsilon, \gamma)$ if and only if $\delta_A(p_0, w) = p$ and $(q_0, w, Z_0) \stackrel{*}{\vdash}_M (q, \epsilon, \gamma)$. Hence, if we define $F' = \{(q, p) / q \text{ in } F \text{ and } p \text{ in } F_A\}$, $T(N) = L \cap R$. If $F' = \{(q, p) / q \text{ in } F \text{ and } p \text{ not in } F_A\}$, $T(N) = L - R$. Also, for w in Σ^* , and $((q, p), \gamma)$ in $R_N(w)$, $p = \delta_A(p_0, w)$ and (q, γ) is in $R_M(w)$. Hence $\#R_N(w) \leq \#R_M(w)$, so N is a wbb pda.

Notation. For a given set, X , let $X^{(n)} = 0 \leq n = \bigcup_{i \leq n} X^i$.

Theorem 2.2. If G is a gsm mapping and L a wbb language, then $G^{-1}(L)$ is a wbb language.

(8) A finite automaton [11] is a five-tuple consisting of a finite nonempty set of states, K_A , a finite nonempty set of input symbols, Σ , a mapping from $K_A \times \Sigma$ to K_A , δ_A , a start state in K_A , p_0 , and a set of acceptable final states $F_A \subseteq K_A$. δ_A is extended to domain $K_A \times \Sigma^*$, as for the mapping δ for the gsm in footnote (7). The set of words accepted by the finite automaton, $T(A)$ is $\{w / \delta_A(p_0, w) \text{ is in } F_A\}$. As noted, each such set is regular, and every regular set is $T(A)$ for some finite automaton, A .

Proof. Let $M = (K_M, \Delta, \Gamma_M, \delta_M, Z_0, q_0, F_M)$ be a wbb pda accepting L , and $S = (K_S, \Sigma, \Delta, \delta_S, \lambda, p_0)$ be a gsm with $\lambda(p_0, w) = G(w)$ for all w in Σ^* . Let $r = \max\{|\lambda(p, a)| \mid p \text{ in } K_S, a \text{ in } \Sigma\}$. Define $K = K_M \times K_S \times \Delta^{(r)} \cup K_S \cup \{q'\}$, where q' is in neither K_S nor $K_M \times K_S \times \Delta^{(r)}$. Let X_0 not be in Γ_M , and $\Gamma = \Gamma_M \cup \{X_0\}$. Let $F = K_S \cup \{(q, p, \epsilon) \mid q \text{ in } F, p \text{ in } K_S\}$. Then consider the pda $N = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, X_0, q', F)$, where δ is defined as follows:

For q in K_M , p in K_S , and Z in Γ_M , if and only if there is a b in Δ such that $\delta_M(q, b, Z) \neq \emptyset$, for all a in Σ with $\lambda(p, a) \neq \epsilon$, let $((q, p', w), Z)$ be in $\delta((q, p, \epsilon), a, Z)$, where $p' = \delta_S(p, a)$ and $w = \lambda(p, a)$.

If (q, γ) is in $\delta_M(q', \epsilon, Z)$, for q and q' in K_M , Z in Γ_M , then for every p in K_S , let $(q, p, \epsilon), \gamma$ be in $\delta((q', p, \epsilon), \epsilon, Z)$.

For b in $\Delta \cup \{\epsilon\}$, u in Δ^* , q and q' in K_M , p in K_S , Z in Γ_M , and γ in Γ_M^* , if (q', γ) is in $\delta_M(q, b, Z)$, let $((q', p, u), \gamma)$ be in $\delta((q, p, bu), \epsilon, Z)$.

For fixed q in F_M , Z in Γ_M , and any p in K_S , if for no b in Δ is $\delta_M(q, b, Z) \neq \emptyset$, let (p, ϵ) be in $\delta((q, p, \epsilon), \epsilon, Z)$.

Let $\delta(p, \epsilon, Z) = \{(p, \epsilon)\}$ for all Z in Γ_M and p in K_S .

For a in Σ , and p in K_S , $\lambda(p, a) = \epsilon$, let $\delta(p, a, X_0) = \{(\delta_S(p, a), X_0)\}$. If $\lambda(p, a) \neq \epsilon$, let $\delta(p, a, X_0) = \emptyset$.

$\delta(q_0, \epsilon, X_0) = \{(q_0, p_0, \epsilon), X_0 Z_0\}$.

Suppose $\lambda(p_0, w) = u$ in L , for given w in Σ^* , and $(q_0, u, Z_0) \stackrel{*}{\vdash}_M (q, \epsilon, \gamma)$ for q in F and in Γ_M^* . Then either $(q_0, w, X_0) \stackrel{*}{\vdash}_N (Q, \epsilon, X_0 \gamma)$, where $Q = (q, \delta_S(p_0, w), \epsilon)$, or there is some initial subword, w' , of w , with $w'w'' = w$, such that $(q_0, w, X_0) \stackrel{*}{\vdash}_N (Q, w'', X_0 \gamma) \stackrel{*}{\vdash}_N (p, \epsilon, X_0)$, where $Q = (q, \delta_S(p_0, w'), \epsilon)$, $p = \delta_S(p_0, w)$ and $\lambda(\delta_S(p_0, w'), w'') = \epsilon$. Hence $G^{-1}(L) \subseteq T(N)$. But it is easy to see that $T(N) \subseteq G^{-1}(L)$, so N accepts $G(L)$.

Now suppose $(q'_0, w, X_0) \vdash_N^{d*} (Q, \epsilon, \gamma)$ for $Q = (q, p, u)$ in $K_M \times K_S \times \Delta^{(r)}$ and γ in Γ^* . Then, $u = \epsilon$ and $p = \delta_S(p_0, w)$, and (q, γ) is in $R_M(w)$. If $(q'_0, w, X_0) \vdash_N^{d*} (p, \epsilon, \gamma)$ for p in K_S and γ in Γ^* , then $\gamma = X_0$. Hence $\#R_N(w) \leq \#R_M(w) + \#K_S$, and N is wbb.

One operation that preserves wbb languages, which will be used to show that other operations do likewise, is the operation f_c . We first show the following lemmas.

Lemma 2.1. If L is a wbb language, then $L = \text{Null}(N)^{(9)}$ for some wbb pda, N .

Proof. Let $L = T(M)$, where $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$ is a wbb pda with bound k .

Let p_1 and p_2 not be symbols of K , and X not in Γ . Let $K_N = K \cup \{p_1, p_2\}$, $\Gamma' = \{Z'/Z \text{ in } \Gamma\}$, where Z' is an abstract symbol, and $\Gamma_N = \Gamma \cup \Gamma' \cup \{X\}$. Define

δ_N as follows:

If (p, γ) is in $\delta(q, a, Z)$, let (p, γ) be in $\delta_N(q, a, Z)$ for q in K , a in $\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$ and Z in Γ .

If $(p, Y\gamma)$ is in $\delta(q, a, Z)$, let $(p, Y'\gamma)$ be in $\delta_N(q, a, Z')$, for Y in Γ , γ in Γ^* .

If (p, ϵ) is in $\delta(q, a, Z)$, let (p_1, X) be in $\delta_N(q, a, Z')$.

If q is in F , let (p_2, ϵ) be in $\delta_N(q, \epsilon, Z)$ for all Z in $\Gamma \cup \Gamma'$.

For all a in Σ and Z in $\Gamma \cup \Gamma'$, let $\delta_N(p_1, a, X) = \{(p_1, X)\}$ and $\delta_N(p_2, \epsilon, Z) = \{(p_2, \epsilon)\}$.

Let N be the pda $(K_N, \Sigma, \Gamma_N, \delta_N, Z'_0, q_0, \emptyset)$. It is known [7] that $T(M) = \text{Null}(N)$. We note that if, for $q \neq p_2$, $(q_0, w, Z'_0) \vdash_N^*(q, \epsilon, \gamma)$, then either $\gamma = X$ or $\gamma = Z'\gamma_1$ for Z' in Γ' and γ_1 in Γ^* . Hence, ϵ never occurs on the pushdown

⁽⁹⁾For pda $N = (K_N, \Sigma, \Gamma_N, \delta_N, Z'_0, q_0, F)$, $\text{Null}(N) = \{w / (q_0, w, Z'_0) \vdash_N^*(q, \epsilon, \epsilon) \text{ for some } q \text{ in } K_N\}$.

tape unless N is in state p_2 . Also, it is never true that $(q_0, w, Z'_0) \vdash_N^{d*} (p_2, \epsilon, \gamma)$ for any w in Σ^* , γ in Γ_N^* , and if $(q_0, w, Z'_0) \vdash_N^{d*} (p_1, \epsilon, \gamma)$, then $\gamma = X$. Finally, if $(q_0, w, Z'_0) \vdash_N^{d*} (q, \epsilon, Z'\gamma)$ for any q in K , Z' in Γ' and γ in Γ^* , then $(q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash_M^{d*} (q, \epsilon, Z\gamma)$. We thus conclude that $\#R_N(w) \leq \#R_M(w) + 1$, hence that N is a wbb pda.

Note. The standard proof [7] also shows that if $L = \text{Null}(M)$ for a wbb pda M , then L is a wbb language. Also, if M is sbb, then L is an sbb language. However, it is not true that every sbb language is $\text{Null}(M)$ for some sbb pda, M . In fact, it is not hard to show that in an sbb language, L is $\text{Null}(M)$ for some sbb pda, M , if and only if there exists an integer k_1 such that for any word, w , in L , $\#\{u/u \leq w \text{ and } u \text{ in } L\} \leq k_1$.

Lemma 2.2. It is decidable for a given pda $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$ and q_1 in K , whether or not there exists w in Σ^* such that $(q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash^*(q_1, \epsilon, \epsilon)$.

Proof. Let $\Gamma' = \{Z'/Z \text{ in } \Gamma\}$, and $\Gamma_N = \Gamma \cup \Gamma'$. Define δ_N as follows:

$\delta_N(q, a, Z) = \delta(q, a, Z)$ for all q in K , a in $\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$ and Z in Γ .

If $(q', Y\gamma)$ is in $\delta(q, a, Z)$, let $(q', Y'\gamma)$ be in $\delta_N(q, a, Z')$.

If (q', ϵ) is in $\delta(q, a, Z)$, let (q', ϵ) be in $\delta_N(q, a, Z')$ if and only if $q' = q_1$.

Then it is easy to see that if $N = (K_N, \Sigma, \Gamma_N, \delta_N, Z'_0, q_0, \emptyset)$, then $\text{Null}(N) = \{w/(q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash_M^*(q_1, \epsilon, \epsilon)\}$. Since $\text{Null}(N)$ is a language for any pda, N [2,4,7], it is decidable whether or not $\text{Null}(N) = \emptyset$.

Corollary. For c in Σ and q_1 in K , it is decidable for pda M , whether or not there exists w in Σ^* such that $(q_0, cw, Z_0) \vdash_M^*(q_1, \epsilon, \epsilon)$.

Proof. $\text{Null}(N) \cap c\Sigma^*$ is a language.

Theorem 2.3. Let L be a wbb language $\subseteq \Sigma^*$, and c an element of Σ . Then $f_c(L)$ is a wbb language.

Proof. By Lemma 2.1, $L = \text{Null}(M)$ for some wbb pda $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, \emptyset)$ with bound k . Define $\Gamma_N = \{[Z, S, T] / Z \in \Gamma, S \text{ and } T \text{ subsets of } K\}$. For (q, Z) in $K \times \Gamma$, define the function θ by $\theta(q, Z) = \{p / p \text{ in } K \text{ and for some } w \text{ in } \Sigma^*, (q, cw, Z) \stackrel{*}{\vdash}_M (p, \epsilon, \epsilon)\}$. Define $\psi(q, Z) = \{p / p \text{ in } K \text{ and for some } w \text{ in } \Sigma^*, (q, w, Z) \stackrel{*}{\vdash}_M (p, \epsilon, \epsilon)\}$. Define $\chi(q, Z) = \{p / p \text{ in } K \text{ and } (q, \epsilon, Z) \stackrel{*}{\vdash}_M (p, \epsilon, \epsilon)\}$. θ and ψ are effectively calculable by Lemma 2.2, and it is easy to see that χ is likewise. ⁽¹⁰⁾
Let $K_N = K \cup \{q' / q \text{ in } K\}$ and $F_N = \{q' / q \text{ in } K\}$. Define δ_N as follows:

If (p, ϵ) is in $\delta(q, a, Z)$ for q in K , a in $\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$ and Z in Γ , let (p, ϵ) be in $\delta_N(q, a, [Z, S, T])$ for all $S, T \subseteq K$.

If $(p, Z_1 Z_2 \dots Z_s)$ is in $\delta(q, a, Z)$, $s \geq 1$, let $(p, [Z_1, S_1, T_1][Z_2, S_2, T_2] \dots [Z_s, S_s, T_s])$ be in $\delta_N(q, a, [Z, S, T])$ for each S and T , each contained in K , where $S_1 = S$, $T_1 = T$, and for $2 \leq i \leq s$, $S_i = \{q / \psi(q, Z_{i-1}) \cap S_{i-1} \neq \emptyset\}$, $T_i = \{q / \theta(q, Z_{i-1}) \cap S_{i-1} \neq \emptyset\} \cup \{q / \chi(q, Z_{i-1}) \cap T_{i-1} \neq \emptyset\}$.

If, for q in K and $[Z, S, T]$ in Γ_N , $\theta(q, Z) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ or $\chi(q, Z) \cap T \neq \emptyset$, let $(q', [Z, S, T])$ be in $\delta_N(q, \epsilon, [Z, S, T])$.

Then consider the pda $N = (K_N, \Sigma, \Gamma_N, \delta_N, X_0, q_0, F_N)$, where $X_0 = [Z_0, K, \emptyset]$. It is easy to see by induction on the length of the pushdown tape, $[Z_1, S_1, T_1]$

⁽¹⁰⁾ It is not actually necessary to have θ , ψ , and χ calculable. We could consider all possible pda defined as the pda N is defined in this proof, but with arbitrary functions θ , ψ , and χ from $K \times \Gamma$ to the subsets of K , and know that one of them accepted the desired set. However, the proof is somewhat simpler because the computability is used to advantage.

$[Z_2, S_2, T_2] \dots [Z_r, S_r, T_r]$, that q is in S_i , $1 \leq i \leq r$, if and only if for some w in Σ^* and p in K , $(q, w, Z_1 Z_2 \dots Z_{i-1}) \vdash_M^*(p, \epsilon, \epsilon)$. Also, q is in T_1 if and only if for some w in Σ^* and p in K , $(q, cw, Z_1 Z_2 \dots Z_{i-1}) \vdash_M^*(p, \epsilon, \epsilon)$. Let h be the homomorphism from Γ_N^* to Γ^* that sends $[Z, S, T]$ to Z for all S and T . A word, w , is in $T(N)$ if and only if for some q in K and γ in Γ_N^* , $(q_0, w, X_0) \vdash_N^*(q, \epsilon, \gamma) \vdash_N (q', \epsilon, \gamma)$. But then and only then will there be a word w' in Σ^* and p in K such that $(q, cw', h(\gamma)) \vdash_M^*(p, \epsilon, \epsilon)$, so that wcw' is in $\text{Null}(M)$. Thus $T(N) = \{u/ucv \text{ is in } L \text{ for } u \text{ and } v \text{ in } \Sigma^*\}$, and if N is wbb, $T(N) \cap (\Sigma - \{c\})^* = f_c(L)$ will be a wbb language. Hence it is sufficient to show that N is a wbb pda.

We note that if $(q_0, w, X_0) \vdash_N^*(q, \epsilon, \gamma)$, then q is a member of K and $(q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash_M^*(q, \epsilon, h(\gamma))$. Also, it is easy to see by induction on the length of the push-down tape, $[Z_1, S_1, T_1][Z_2, S_2, T_2] \dots [Z_r, S_r, T_r]$, that the sequence Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_r , together with the functions θ , ψ , and χ , uniquely determines S_i and T_i for all i , $1 \leq i \leq r$. Thus if $(q_0, w, X_0) \vdash_N^*(q, \epsilon, \gamma_1)$ and $(q_0, w, X_0) \vdash_N^*(q, \epsilon, \gamma_2)$ and $h(\gamma_1) = h(\gamma_2)$, then $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2$. We may conclude that $\#R_N(w) = \#R_M(w)$, hence that N is wbb.

Theorem 2.4. If L is a wbb language, and R a regular set, (a) L/R is a wbb language, (b) $\text{Init}(L)$ is a wbb language.

Proof. (a) As in [6], we may define a gsm mapping, G , that takes a to a for all a in Σ , the joint vocabulary of L and R , and c to ϵ for some c not in Σ . Then $L/R = f_c(G^{-1}(L) \cap \Sigma^*cR)$. Since f_c, G^{-1} and intersection with a regular set preserve wbb languages, by Theorems 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3, L/R is a wbb language.

(b) $\text{Init}(L) = L/\Sigma^*$, hence Init also preserves wbb languages.

Theorem 2.5. If L is a wbb language and R a regular set, then LR is a wbb language.

Proof. Let $L = T(M)$, where $M = (K_M, \Sigma, \Gamma_M, \delta_M, Z_0, q_0, F_M)$ is a wbb machine with bound k . Let $R = T(A)$, where $A = (K_A, \Sigma, \delta_A, p_0, F_A)$ is a finite automaton. We will assume $K_A \cap K_M = \emptyset$, and that q_0' is a member of neither K_A nor K_M . Let $K = K_A \cup K_M \cup \{q_0'\}$, X_0 not be an element of Γ_M , and $\Gamma = \Gamma_M \cup \{X_0\}$. Define δ as follows:

$$\delta(q_0', \epsilon, X_0) = \{(q_0, X_0 Z_0)\}$$

If q is in $K_M - F_M$, a in $\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$, and Z in Γ_M , let $\delta(q, a, Z) = \delta_M(q, a, Z)$.

For q in F_M , Z in Γ_M , let $\delta(q, a, Z) = \delta_M(q, a, Z) \cup \{(p_0, \epsilon)\}$.

$$\delta(p_0, \epsilon, Z) = \{(p_0, \epsilon)\} \text{ for all } Z \text{ in } \Gamma_M.$$

$$\delta(p, a, X_0) = \{(\delta_A(p, a), X_0)\}, \text{ for all } p \text{ in } K_A \text{ and } a \text{ in } \Sigma.$$

$$\delta(q, a, Z) = \emptyset \text{ otherwise.}$$

Define pda $N = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, X_0, q_0', F_A)$. Evidently, if $(q_0', w, X_0) \xrightarrow{d^*}_N (q, \epsilon, \gamma)$, and q is in K_A , then $\gamma = X_0$. If q is in K_M , $(q_0', w, Z_0) \xrightarrow{d^*}_M (q, \epsilon, \gamma')$, where $\gamma = X_0 \gamma'$. Furthermore, it is impossible that q could be q_0' . Thus $\#R_N(w) \leq \#R_M(w) + \#K_A$, and if M is wbb, N is wbb.

Section 3. Information Lossless Gsm Mappings

We will now consider two restricted classes of gsm's, and show that one preserves deterministic, sbb, and wbb languages, the other wbb languages only. These results are significant, for we will show later that not all gsm mappings preserve sbb languages, and it is strongly suspected that the same applies to wbb languages.

Definition. A gsm, $S = (K, \Sigma, \Delta, \delta, \lambda, p_0)$, is said to be information lossless (IL) if for x_1 and x_2 in Σ^* , $x_1 \neq x_2$ implies either $\delta(p_0, x_1) \neq \delta(p_0, x_2)$ or $\lambda(p_0, x_1) \neq \lambda(p_0, x_2)$ [3].

A gsm is said to be information lossless of order k (IL-k) if for $x_1 = ax'_1$ and $x_2 = bx'_2$, a and b in Σ , x'_1 and x'_2 in Σ^* , $|x_1| > k$, $|x_2| > k$, and any p in K , $\lambda(p, x_1) \leq \lambda(p, x_2)$ implies $a = b$.

Note that an IL-k gsm is IL. An IL gsm not IL-k for any k is said to be information lossless of infinite order.

We will show that IL-k gsm's preserve deterministic and sbb languages, but first will need a simple lemma.

Lemma 3.1. If L is a deterministic language, then there exists a deterministic pda, M , with $T(M) = L$ and $\text{Null}(M) = \emptyset$.

Proof. Let $L = T(N)$, where $N = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$ is a deterministic pda. Let X_0 not be in Γ , and $\Gamma_M = \Gamma \cup \{X_0\}$. Let q'_0 not be in K , and $K_M = K \cup \{q'_0\}$. Define $\delta_M(q, a, Z) = \delta(q, a, Z)$ for all q in K , a in $\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$ and Z in Γ , and $\delta_M(q'_0, \epsilon, X_0) = \{(q_0, X_0 Z_0)\}$. δ_M has value \emptyset elsewhere. Then it is trivial to show that $M = (K_M, \Sigma, \Gamma_M, \delta_M, X_0, q'_0, F)$ satisfies the requirements of the lemma.

Lemma 3.2. If L is a deterministic language and G an IL-k gsm mapping, then $G(L)$ is a deterministic language.

Proof. Let $M = (K_M, \Sigma, \Gamma_M, \delta_M, Z_0, q_0, F)$ be a deterministic pda accepting L . Let $S = (K_S, \Sigma, \Delta, \delta_S, \lambda, p_0)$ be an IL-k gsm, with $G(w) = \lambda(p_0, w)$ for all w in Σ^* . We assume, without loss of generality, by Lemma 3.1, that $\text{Null}(M) = \emptyset$. Let $r_1 = \max\{|\lambda(p, a)| / a \text{ in } \Sigma, p \text{ in } K_S\}$, and $r = r_1(k+1)$. Define $K' = K_M \times K_S \times \Delta^{(r)}$, $K'' = \{x'/x \text{ in } K'\}$, and $K = K' \cup K''$. Also, let $\Gamma = \{(Z, \tau) / Z \text{ is in } \Gamma_M \text{ and } \tau \text{ is a mapping from } K_M \text{ to the subsets of } \Sigma^{(k)}\}$. Intuitively, $\tau(q)$ will represent the words in $\Sigma^{(k)}$ that would leave the pda, M , in a state in F , beginning in state q , but with the top symbol of the pushdown tape erased.

Define a function, μ , from $K_S \times \Delta^{(r)}$ to $\Sigma \cup \{\emptyset\}$, such that $\mu(p, w) = a$ if a is the unique element of Σ such that $\lambda(p, a) \leq w$, and $\mu(p, w) = \emptyset$ otherwise.

For q and q' in K_M , and Z in Γ_M , define $\psi(q, q', Z) = \{w/(q, w, Z) \mid_M^*(q', \epsilon, \epsilon)\} \cap \Sigma^{(k)}$.

Finally, define $\theta(q, Z) = \{w/(q, w, Z) \mid_M^*(q', \epsilon, \gamma) \text{ for } q' \text{ in } F \text{ and } \gamma \text{ in } \Gamma^*\} \cap \Sigma^{(k)}$.

Let N be the pda $(K, \Delta, \Gamma, \delta, X_0, Q_0, K'')$, where $X_0 = (Z_0, \tau_0)$ and for all q in K_M , $\tau_0(q) = \emptyset$, and $Q_0 = (q_0, p_0, \epsilon)$. Let δ be defined as follows:

(1) If (Z, τ) is in Γ , (q, p, w) in K' , and for some word, x , in $\theta(q, Z) \cup \bigcup_{q' \text{ in } K_M} \psi(q, q', Z)\tau(q') \cap \Sigma^{(k)}$, $\lambda(p, x) = w$, let $\delta((q, p, w), \epsilon, (Z, \tau)) = \{((q, p, w)', (Z, \tau))\}$.

(2) If $\delta_M(q, \epsilon, Z) = \{(t, \epsilon)\}$, let $\delta(Q, \epsilon, X) = \{(T, \epsilon)\}$, for all $X = (Z, \tau)$, in Γ , τ arbitrary, w in $\Delta^{(r)}$, and p in K_S , where $Q = (q, p, w)'$ if $\delta((q, p, w), \epsilon, X)$ is defined by rule (1), $Q = (q, p, w)$ if not, and $T = (t, p, w)$.

(3) If $\delta_M(q, \epsilon, Z) = \{(t, Z_1 Z_2 \dots Z_s)\}$, $s \geq 1$, let $\delta(Q, \epsilon, X) = \{(T, X_1 X_2 \dots X_s)\}$ for all X in Γ , $X = (Z, \tau)$, arbitrary τ , w in $\Delta^{(r)}$, and p in K_S , where T and Q are defined as in (2), $X_1 = (Z_1, \tau_1)$, $\tau_1 = \tau$, and for $2 \leq i \leq s$, $X_i = (Z_i, \tau_i)$ where for q' in K_M , $\tau_i(q') = \theta(q', Z_{1-1}) \cup \bigcup_{q'' \text{ in } K_M} \psi(q', q'', Z_{1-1})\tau_{i-1}(q'') \cap \Sigma^{(k)}$.

(4) Let q be in K_M , p in K_S , w in $\Delta^{(r)}$, Z in Γ_M , $\delta_M(q, \epsilon, Z) = \emptyset$, and $\mu(p, w) = a$ in Σ . Further, define w' by $\lambda(p, a)w' = w$, p' by $\delta_S(p, a) = p'$, and assume $\delta_M(q, a, Z) = \{(t, \epsilon)\}$. Then let $\delta(Q, \epsilon, X) = \{(T, \epsilon)\}$, where $Q = (q, p, w)'$ if $\delta((q, p, w), \epsilon, X)$ is defined by rule (1), $Q = (q, p, w)$ if not, $X = (Z, \tau)$, arbitrary τ , and $T = (t, p', w')$.

(5) Under the same conditions as (4), except $\delta_M(q, a, Z) = \{(t, Z_1 Z_2 \dots Z_s)\}$, $s \geq 1$, let $\delta(Q, \epsilon, X) = \{(T, X_1 X_2 \dots X_s)\}$, Q , X , and T as in (4), X_1, X_2, \dots, X_s as in (3).

(6) For q in K_M , p in K_S , w in $\Delta^{(r-1)}$, X in Γ , $X = (Z, \tau)$, $\delta_M(q, \epsilon, Z) = \emptyset$ and $\mu(p, a) = \emptyset$, for all b in Δ , let $\delta(Q, b, X) = \{((q, p, wb), X)\}$, where $Q = (q, p, w)$ if $\delta((q, p, w), \epsilon, X)$ is defined by rule (1), $Q = (q, p, w)$ if not.

(7) $\delta(Q, b, X) = \emptyset$ for all Q in K , b in $\Delta \cup \{\epsilon\}$ and X in Γ unless explicitly defined otherwise by rules (1) - (6).

It is straightforward to see that N is a deterministic pda, since under no circumstances may two rules be applied simultaneously. Let γ be in Γ^* , $\gamma = (Z_1, \tau_1)(Z_2, \tau_2) \dots (Z_s, \tau_s)$, $s \geq 1$. Then it is easy to see by induction on s , that for any q in K_M , and $2 \leq i \leq s$, $\tau_i(q) = \{w / (q, w, Z_1 Z_2 \dots Z_{i-1}) \mid_M^* (q', \epsilon, \gamma')\}$ for some q' in F and γ' in $\Gamma_M^* \cap \Sigma^{(k)}$. Also, $\tau_1(q) = \emptyset$.

Let h be the homomorphism from Γ^* to Γ_M^* which takes (Z, τ) to Z for all τ . Suppose for some u in Δ^* , Q in K' and γ in Γ^* , $(Q_0, u, X_0) \mid_N^* (Q, \epsilon, \gamma)$. Let $Q = (q, p, u')$. Then for some u'' in Δ^* , $u''u' = u$. Also, there is some w in Σ^* such that $\lambda(p_0, w) = u''$, $\delta_S(p_0, w) = p$, and $(q_0, w, Z_0) \mid_M^* (q, \epsilon, h(\gamma))$. We note that $h(\gamma)$ is not ϵ , hence $\gamma \neq \epsilon$. But $(Q, \epsilon, \gamma) \mid_N^* (Q', \epsilon, \gamma)$ if and only if there is some word w' in $\Sigma^{(k)}$ such that ww' is in L and $\lambda(p_0, ww') = u$. Thus $T(N) \subseteq G(L)$.

Theorem 3.1. Information lossless gsm mappings of finite order, k , preserve sbb languages.

Proof. All gsm mappings are additive, hence sbb languages are preserved by IL- k mappings according to Lemmas 1.5 and 3.2.

Theorem 3.2. If L is a wbb language, and G an IL gsm mapping, then $G(L)$ is a wbb language.

Proof. Let $M = (K_M, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta_M, Z_0, q_0, F_M)$, $L = T(M)$, and M be a wbb pda with bound k . Let $S = (K_S, \Delta, \delta_S, \lambda, p_0)$ be an IL gsm realizing the mapping, G . Suppose the maximum of $|\lambda(p, a)|$, over all a in Σ and p in K_S , is r . Let $K = K_M \times K_S \times \Delta^{(r-1)}$. Define δ as follows:

If (q, p, w) is in K , b in Δ , Z in Γ , and $|w| = r-1$, let $\delta((q, p, w), b, Z) = \bigcup_{\lambda(p, a) = wb} \{((q', \delta_S(p, a), \epsilon), \gamma) / (q', \gamma) \text{ is in } \delta_M(q, a, Z)\}$.

If $|w| < r-1$, and for some a in Σ , $wb \leq \lambda(p, a)$ and $\delta_M(q, a, Z) \neq \emptyset$, let $\delta((q, p, w), b, Z) = \bigcup_{\lambda(p, a) = wb} \{((q', \delta_S(p, a), \epsilon), \gamma) / (q', \gamma) \text{ is in } \delta_M(q, a, Z)\} \cup \{((q, p, wb), Z)\}$.

For q in K_M , p in K_S and Z in Γ , let $\delta((q, p, \epsilon), \epsilon, Z) = \{((q', p, \epsilon), \gamma) / (q', \gamma) \text{ is in } \delta_M(q, \epsilon, Z)\} \cup \bigcup_{\lambda(p, a) = \epsilon} \{((q', \delta_S(p, a), \epsilon), \gamma) / (q', \gamma) \text{ is in } \delta_M(q, a, Z)\}$.

Let $F = \{(q, p, \epsilon) / q \text{ in } F_M \text{ and } p \text{ in } K_S\}$. Define the pda, $N = (K, \Delta, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, Q_0, F)$, where $Q_0 = (q_0, p_0, \epsilon)$.

Suppose $w = a_1 a_2 \dots a_s$, $s \geq 0$, and w is in L . Then for some $q_1, q'_1, \gamma_1, \gamma'_1, 1 \leq i \leq s, q_{s+1}$ and γ_{s+1} , $(q_0, w, Z_0) \xrightarrow{*}_M (q_1, w, \gamma_1) \xrightarrow{*}_M (q'_1, a_2 a_3 \dots a_s, \gamma'_1) \xrightarrow{*}_M (q_2, a_2 a_3 \dots a_s, \gamma_2) \xrightarrow{*}_M (q'_2, a_3 a_4 \dots a_s, \gamma'_2) \xrightarrow{*}_M \dots \xrightarrow{*}_M (q_s, a_s, \gamma_s) \xrightarrow{*}_M (q'_s, \epsilon, \gamma'_s) \xrightarrow{*}_M (q_{s+1}, \epsilon, \gamma_{s+1})$, where q_{s+1} is in F_M . For $1 \leq i \leq s$, let $p_i = \delta_S(p_0, a_1 a_2 \dots a_i)$, $p'_i = \delta_S(p_0, a_1 a_2 \dots a_{i-1})$, $Q'_i = (q'_i, p_i, \epsilon)$, and $Q_i = (q_i, p'_i, u_i)$, where if $\lambda(p'_i, a_i) = \epsilon$, then $u_i = \epsilon$ and $c_i = \epsilon$, and $\lambda(p'_i, a_i) = u_i c_i$ for u_i in Δ^* and c_i in Δ , otherwise. Then it should be evident that $(Q_0, \lambda(p_0, w), Z_0) \xrightarrow{*}_N (Q_1, c_1 \lambda(p_1, a_2 a_3 \dots a_s), \gamma_1) \xrightarrow{*}_N (Q'_1, \lambda(p_1, a_2 a_3 \dots a_s), \gamma'_1) \xrightarrow{*}_N (Q_2, c_2 \lambda(p_2, a_3 a_4 \dots a_s), \gamma_2) \xrightarrow{*}_N (Q'_2, \lambda(p_2, a_3 a_4 \dots a_s), \gamma'_2) \xrightarrow{*}_N \dots \xrightarrow{*}_N (Q_s, c_s, \gamma_s) \xrightarrow{*}_N (Q'_s, \epsilon, \gamma'_s) \xrightarrow{*}_N ((q_{s+1}, p_s, \epsilon), \epsilon, \gamma_{s+1})$. Thus, if w is in $T(M)$, $\lambda(p_0, w)$ is in $T(N)$.

Now suppose $(Q_0, u, Z_0) \vdash_N^* (Q, \epsilon, \gamma)$, for Q in K , of the form (q, p, ϵ) , γ in Γ^* , and u in Δ^* . We will prove by induction on $|u|$, that there must be some w in Σ^* such that $\lambda(p_0, w) = u$ and $(q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash_M^* (q, \epsilon, \gamma)$. Suppose $u = \epsilon$. Then $(Q_0, \epsilon, \gamma_0) \vdash_N (Q_1, \epsilon, \gamma_1) \vdash_N \dots \vdash_N (Q_s, \epsilon, \gamma_s)$, where $Q_s = Q$, $\gamma_s = \gamma$ and $\gamma_0 = Z_0$. Let $Q_i = (q_i, p_i, \epsilon)$, $0 \leq i \leq s$. Then for each i between 1 and s , either $(q_{i-1}, \epsilon, \gamma_{i-1}) \vdash_M (q_i, \epsilon, \gamma_i)$ or $(q_{i-1}, a, \gamma_{i-1}) \vdash_M (q_i, \epsilon, \gamma_i)$ for some a in Σ . Thus it is obvious that a w exists with $\lambda(p_0, w) = \epsilon$ and $(q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash_M^* (q, \epsilon, \gamma)$.

Now, let $|u| = t$, $t \geq 1$, and assume the inductive hypothesis for all $t' < t$. Then $u = u'b$ for some u' in Δ^* and b in Δ . There are some Q', Q'', γ' , and γ'' such that $(Q_0, u, Z_0) \vdash_N^* (Q', b, \gamma') \vdash_N (Q'', \epsilon, \gamma'') \vdash_N^* (Q, \epsilon, \gamma)$, where Q' is of the form (q', p', u'') and Q'' is of the form (q'', p'', ϵ) . u'' is a terminal subword of u' of length $r-1$ or less, so let $u'''u'' = u'$. Then for some Q''' of the form (q''', p''', ϵ) , and γ''' in Γ^* , $(Q_0, u''', Z_0) \vdash_N^* (Q''', \epsilon, \gamma''')$ and $\lambda(p''', a) = u''b$ for some a in Σ . By the inductive hypothesis, there is some w' such that $\lambda(p_0, w') = u'''$ and $(q_0, w', Z_0) \vdash_M^* (q''', \epsilon, \gamma''')$. Then $\lambda(p_0, wa) = u$ and $(q_0, wa, Z_0) \vdash_M^* (q'', \epsilon, \gamma'')$. By the argument used in the case $u = \epsilon$, there will be a w'' in Σ^* such that $\lambda(p'', w'') = \epsilon$ and $(q'', w'', \gamma'') \vdash_M^* (q, \epsilon, \gamma)$. Since (q, p, ϵ) is in F if and only if q is in F_M , we conclude that if u is in $T(N)$, then there is a w in $T(M)$ such that $\lambda(p_0, w) = u$. Thus $T(N) = G(L)$.

Now suppose $(Q_0, v, Z_0) \vdash_N^{d*} ((q, p, u), \epsilon, \gamma)$ for v in Δ^* , q in K_M , p in K_S , u in $\Delta^{(r-1)}$, and γ in Γ^* . There exists b in Δ such that $((q, p, u), b, \gamma) \vdash_N (Q, \epsilon, \gamma')$, Q in K , γ' in Γ^* . Let $v = u'u$. Then there is some a in Σ and exactly one w such that $(q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash_M^* (q, \epsilon, \gamma)$, $\lambda(p_0, w) = u'$, $\delta_S(p_0, w) = p$, $ub \leq \lambda(p, a)$, and $(q, a, \gamma) \vdash_M (q'', \epsilon, \gamma'')$ for some q'' in K_M and γ'' in Γ^* . Hence $(q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash_M^{d*} (q, \epsilon, \gamma)$. Therefore,

if $\#K_S = m$, there are at most kmr pairs, $((q, p, u), \gamma)$, such that $(q_0, v, Z_0) \vdash_N^{d*} ((q, p, u), \epsilon, \gamma)$. Hence, N is a wbb machine, and the theorem is proven.

One question has been left unanswered. Do IL gsm's of infinite order preserve sbb languages? The answer is no, but this result will be left for a later section.

Section 4. The Relation Between the Sbb and Wbb Properties

The main result here is that the sbb languages form a proper subset of the wbb languages.

Lemma 4.1. Every sbb pda is a wbb pda.

Proof. Suppose $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$ were an sbb pda with bound k , but not wbb. Let $n = \#\Sigma$. Then there is some x in Σ^* for which $\#R_M(x) > nk$, hence some a in Σ and distinct (q_i, γ_i) , $1 \leq i \leq k+1$, in $K \times \Gamma^*$ for which $(q_0, a, Z_0) \vdash^* (q_i, a, \gamma_i) \vdash (q'_i, \epsilon, \gamma'_i)$ for some q'_i in K and γ'_i in Γ^* . Since M may have no infinite loops with input ϵ , for each i , $1 \leq i \leq k+1$, there will be some q''_i and γ''_i in K and Γ^* , respectively, such that $(q'_i, \epsilon, \gamma'_i) \vdash^* (q''_i, \epsilon, \gamma''_i)$ and for no q in K , γ in Γ^* is $(q''_i, \epsilon, \gamma''_i) \vdash (q, \epsilon, \gamma)$ true. Thus, for each i , $1 \leq i \leq k+1$, there will be an element in $P_M(xa)$, and it is not hard to see that these elements must be distinct. But then the assumption that k was a bound on $\bigcup_{y=xa} Q_M(y, xa)$ has been violated, so we conclude that if M is sbb, it is wbb.

We will now exhibit a language that is wbb, but not sbb. Let $L_1 = \{a^n b^n / n \geq 1\}$, $L_2 = \{a^n b^n c / n \geq 1\}$, $L_3 = \{a^n b^{2n} c c / n \geq 1\}$, and $L_4 = (L_1 \cup L_2 \cup L_3)^* \quad (11)$

(11) The language L_4 may seem more complicated than necessary, but this language will be needed in the next section to prove an additional result.

We will prove L_4 to be wbb, but not sbb. These languages will be as defined above for the remainder of the paper.

Lemma 4.2. Let $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$ be a loop-free, deterministic pda, with $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$, and $T(M) \subseteq L_4$. Let w be in L_4 , and for an infinity of n , let $wa^n b^n$ be in $T(M)$. Then there must be some m such that $wa^m b^m$ is in $T(M)$, but for no w' in Σ^* is $wa^m b^{2m} ccw'$ in $T(M)$.

Proof. Let $S = \{n/wa^n b^n \text{ is in } T(M)\}$. Assume for some integer, r , and an infinity of arbitrary integers, n , $(q_0, wa^n, Z_0) \vdash^*(q_n, \epsilon, \gamma_n)$ for q_n in K , γ_n in Γ^* and $|\gamma_n| \leq r$. Then there exist q and γ such that $q = q_n$ and $\gamma = \gamma_n$ for an infinity of n , since K and $\Gamma^{(r)}$ are finite sets. Let n_1 be the smallest n with $q_{n_1} = q$ and $\gamma_{n_1} = \gamma$, and n_2 the smallest element of S with $n_2 \geq n_1$. We can find n_3 with $q_{n_3} = q$ and $\gamma_{n_3} = \gamma$ and $n_3 > n_2$, else $\{n/q_n = q \text{ and } \gamma_n = \gamma\}$ would be bounded, hence finite. But then, $(q_0, wa^{n_3+n_2-n_1} b^{n_2}, Z_0) \vdash^*(q, a^{n_2-n_1} b^{n_2}, \gamma) \vdash^*(q', \epsilon, \gamma')$ for some q' in F and γ' in Γ^* . But $n_3 + n_2 - n_1 > n_2$, so $wa^{n_3+n_2-n_1} b^{n_2}$ cannot be a word of L_4 .

We thus conclude that for every integer, r , there is a smallest integer, m_r , such that if $n \geq m_r$, and $(q_0, wa^n, Z_0) \vdash^*(q, \epsilon, \gamma)$, then $|\gamma| \geq r$. Since M is loop free, if $(q_0, wa^n, Z_0) \vdash^*(q, \epsilon, \gamma)$, the set $\{m/(q, a, \gamma) \vdash^*(q', \epsilon, \gamma') \text{ and } |\gamma'| = m\}$ is bounded. Hence, no m may be m_r for more than a finite number of r , and $\{m/m = m_r \text{ for some } r\}$ is infinite. We may therefore find an infinite, monotonically increasing sequence of integers, $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_i, \dots$, such that for $i \geq 1$, $(q_0, wa^{n_i}, Z_0) \vdash^*(q_i, \epsilon, \gamma_i Z_i)$ where q_i is in K , γ_i in Γ^* , and Z_i in Γ , and if, for $j \geq 1$, $(q_i, a^j, \gamma_i Z_i) \vdash^*(q', \epsilon, \gamma')$, then $\gamma_i \leq \gamma'$. (Note that it is sufficient that $n_i + 1$ be m_r for some r , and $\delta(q_i, a, Z_i) \neq \emptyset$.) We may then find some

q and Z such that for an infinity of i , $q = q_i$ and $Z = Z_i$. Renumbering, if necessary, we may find a new infinite, monotonically increasing sequence, $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_i, \dots$ with the property that for all $i \geq 1$, $(q_0, wa^{n_1}, Z_0) \vdash^*(q, \epsilon, \gamma_i Z)$ for some γ_i in Γ^* , and if for $j \geq 1$, $(q, a^j, \gamma_i Z) \vdash^*(q', \epsilon, \gamma')$, then $\gamma_i \leq \gamma'$.

Now suppose there is some n in S , $n_i \leq n < n_{i+1}$, for some $i > 2$, such that $(q_0, wa^{n_1} b^n, Z_0) \vdash^*(q, a^{n-n_i} b^n, \gamma_i Z) \vdash (q'_1, x_1, \gamma'_1) \vdash (q'_2, x_2, \gamma'_2) \vdash \dots \vdash (q'_s, x_s, \gamma'_s)$, where $x_s = \epsilon$, q'_s is in F , and for $1 \leq j \leq s$, x_j is a terminal subsequence of $a^{n-n_i} b^n$ and $\gamma_i \leq \gamma'_j$. Then $(q_0, wa^{n_2-n_1} b^n, Z_0) \vdash^*(q, a^{n-n_i} b^n, \gamma_2 \gamma'_1 Z) \vdash^*(q'_s, \epsilon, \gamma_2 \gamma'_s)$, where $\gamma_i = \gamma_1 \gamma'_1$ and $\gamma'_s = \gamma_1 \gamma'_s$. But $n_2 - n_1 > 0$, so we again have a word in L_4 that does not belong.

We have thus shown the existence, for each n in S , $n_i \leq n < n_{i+1}$, $i > 2$, of a smallest integer, $p_n \leq n$, such that $(q_0, wa^{p_n} b^n, Z_0) \vdash^*(q, a^{n-n_i} b^{p_n}, \gamma_i Z) \vdash^*(q'_n, b^{p_n}, \gamma'_n) \vdash^*(q''_n, \epsilon, \gamma_2)$, for some q'_n and q''_n in K , and γ'_n in Γ^* . We note that there will be some q' such that $q' = q''_n$ for an infinity of n in S .

At this point, let us introduce the assumption contrary to the statement of the lemma we are trying to prove, namely that for each n in S , there is a w' in Σ^* such that $wa^{n_1} b^{2n} ccw'$ is in $T(M)$. Then we may find s and t in S , with $q''_s = q''_t = q'$, $s > 2t$, and $(q_0, wa^{t_1} b^{2s-p_s+p_t} ccw', Z_0) \vdash^*(q', b^{2s-p_s} ccw', \gamma_2) \vdash^*(q'', \epsilon, \gamma'')$, for some w' in Σ^* , q'' in F , and γ'' in Γ^* . However, $s \geq p_s$, so $2s - p_s + p_t > 2t$, which implies, again, that $T(M)$ is not contained in L_4 . We may thus conclude the lemma.

Lemma 4.3. L_4 is not the finite union of deterministic languages.

Proof. Suppose $L_4 = \bigcup_{i=1}^k T(M_i)$, where M_i is deterministic for each i . We may assume M_i is loop-free deterministic without loss of generality. Let $w_0 = \epsilon$.

For each $j > 0$, assume that w_{j-1} is in L_4 . Then for all n , $w_{j-1}a^n b^n$ is in L_4 , and we can find some i_j such that for an infinity of n , $w_{j-1}a^n b^n$ is in $T(M_{1j})$. Then we can find, by Lemma 4.2, an m such that for no w' in $\{a,b,c\}^*$ is $w_{j-1}a^m b^{2m} ccw'$ in $T(M_{1j})$. Define $w_j = w_{j-1}a^m b^{2m} cc$, certainly a word in L_4 . Since w_0 is in L_4 , we see that w_j is in L_4 for all j , when defined in the manner above. However, consider w_k . No integer may be i_j for two different j , thus, for no i , $1 \leq i \leq k$, does M_{1i} accept a word of the form $w_k w'$, for w' in $\{a,b,c\}^*$. But $w_k ab$, for example, is in L_4 , thus L_4 could not be the finite union of deterministic languages.

Lemma 4.4. L_4 is a wbb language.

Proof. Consider the pda $M = (\{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{Z_0, Z_1\}, \delta, Z_0, q_0, \{q_0\})$ where δ is defined in table 4.1.

q	Z	$\delta(q, a, Z)$	$\delta(q, b, Z)$	$\delta(q, c, Z)$	$\delta(q, \epsilon, Z)$
q_0	Z_0	$\{(q_0, Z_0 Z_1)\}$	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_0	Z_1	$\{(q_0, Z_1 Z_1)\}$	$\{(q_1, \epsilon), (q_2, Z_1)\}$	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_1	Z_0	\emptyset	\emptyset	$\{(q_0, Z_0)\}$	$\{(q_0, Z_0)\}$
q_1	Z_1	\emptyset	$\{(q_1, \epsilon)\}$	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_2	Z_0	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_2	Z_1	\emptyset	$\{(q_3, \epsilon)\}$	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_3	Z_0	\emptyset	\emptyset	$\{(q_4, Z_0)\}$	\emptyset
q_3	Z_1	\emptyset	$\{(q_2, Z_1)\}$	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_4	Z_0	\emptyset	\emptyset	$\{(q_0, Z_0)\}$	\emptyset
q_4	Z_1	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset

Table 4.1

It is not hard to see that $T(M) = L_4$ and that m is a wbb pda with a bound of three. The verification will be left to the reader.

Theorem 4.1. The sbb languages are properly included in the wbb languages.

Proof. Immediate from Lemmas 4.1, 4.3 and 4.4.

Section 5. Some Operations that Fail to Preserve the Sbb Property

The common operations of complementation and arbitrary gsm mapping do not preserve sbb languages. We strongly suspect that the same is true of the wbb languages, but do not have a proof, due to the difficulty in exhibiting that a specific language is not wbb. We will also show that IL gsm mappings not of finite order do not necessarily preserve sbb languages.

Lemma 5.1. The language $L_5 = \{a^n b^m / n \leq m \leq 2n\}$ is not the finite union of deterministic languages.

Proof. The proof of this lemma has many details in common with the proof of Lemma 4.2. We will therefore not go into detail when steps can be filled in a manner analogous to that used in Lemma 4.2.

Assume that for some k , $L_5 = \bigcup_{i=1}^k T(M_i)$ for loop-free deterministic pda M_1, M_2, \dots, M_k . For $n \geq 0$, let $S_n = \{M_i / M_i \text{ accepts two words } a^{n_1} b^{m_1} \text{ and } a^{n_2} b^{m_2} \text{ with } n_1 - m_2 \geq n/2k\}$. We observe that for $n > k$, S_n is not empty, for otherwise there would be at most n words of the form $a^n b^m$, in L_5 , when in fact there are $n+1$. Also observe that for some i , M_i is in S_n for an infinity of n . Let us choose one such i , and let $M_i = M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, Z_0, q_0, F)$. Let $T = \{n / M \text{ is in } S_n\}$. By an argument quite similar to that employed in Lemma 4.2, we may show that it is not possible for some r and an infinity of integers, n , to have $(q_0, a^n, Z_0) \vdash_M^*$

(q, ϵ, γ) for some q in K and γ in Γ^* , with $|\gamma| \leq r$. Also, we can show that we must then have a q in K and Z in Γ , and an infinite, monotonically increasing sequence of integers, $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_1, \dots$ such that for all $i \geq 1$, $(q_0, a^{n_i}, Z_0) \mid_M^* (q, \epsilon, \gamma_1 Z)$ for some γ_1 in Γ^* , and if for $j \geq 1$, $(q, a^j, \gamma_1 Z) \mid_M^* (q', \epsilon, \gamma')$, then $\gamma_1 \leq \gamma'$. Finally, as in Lemma 4.2, we may see that if n is in T , $i > 2$, and $n_1 \leq n < n_{i+1}$, then it is not possible that $(q_0, a^{n-m}, Z_0) \mid_M^* (q, a^{n-n_i} b^m, \gamma_1 Z) \mid_M^* (q_1, x_1, \gamma'_1) \mid_M^* (q_2, x_2, \gamma'_2) \mid_M^* \dots \mid_M^* (q_s, x_s, \gamma'_s)$, where q_s is in F , $x_s = \epsilon$, and for $1 \leq j \leq s$, x_j is a terminal subsequence of $a^{n-n_i} b^m$, and γ_2 is an initial subsequence of γ'_1 . Hence, for each n in T , $n \geq n_3$, there is a smallest integer, p_n , such that $(q_0, a^{n-p_n}, Z_0) \mid_M^* (q, a^{n-n_i} b^{p_n}, \gamma_1 Z) \mid_M^* (q'_n, b^{p_n}, \gamma_1 \gamma'_n) \mid_M^* (q''_n, \epsilon, \gamma_2)$, for q'_n and q''_n in K , γ'_n in Γ^* , and $n_1 \leq n \leq n_{i+1}$, and if a^{n-m} is in $T(M)$, for any m , then $m \geq p_n$. We may thus choose q' in K such that for an infinity of n in T , $q''_n = q'$.

Now let us choose s and t in T , such that $q''_s = q''_t = q'$, and $s > 4kt$. We may find m_1 and m_2 , with $m_1 - m_2 \geq s/2k$, and a^{s-m_1} and a^{s-m_2} words of $T(M)$. But then, $(q_0, a^{t-m_1+p_t-p_s}, Z_0) \mid_M^* (q', b^{m_1-p_s}, \gamma_2) \mid_M^* (q'', \epsilon, \gamma')$ for some q'' in F , and γ' in Γ^* . However, $m_1 + p_t - p_s \geq m_1 - m_2 + p_t \geq s/2k > 2t$. Hence $a^{t-m_1+p_t-p_s}$ is not in L_5 . We have thus contradicted the assumption that L_5 is the finite union of deterministic languages.

Theorem 5.1. The sbb languages are not closed under (a) complementation
(b) arbitrary gsm mappings.

Proof. (a) Let $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$. Then $\Sigma^* = L_5 = \{a^n b^m / m < n\} \cup \{a^n b^m / n \geq 1, m > 2n\} \cup aa^*bb^*a\Sigma^* \cup b\Sigma^*$ is easily seen to be the finite union of deterministic languages. Its complement, L_5 , of course, is not.

(b) Let G be the gsm mapping which always takes a to a , b to b , and c to ϵ . Let $L_6 = \{a^i c a^j b^{i+2j} / i \geq 0, j \geq 0\}$.⁽¹²⁾ It is easily seen that L_6 is deterministic. But $G(L_6) = L_5$, so not all gsm mappings preserve sbb languages.

Lastly, we would like to show that it is not generally true that an IL gsm mapping of infinite order will preserve the sbb property. We will use the languages L_1 and L_4 as defined in the previous section.

Theorem 5.2. IL gsm mappings of infinite order do not preserve sbb languages.

Proof. Consider the gsm $S = (\{p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, b, c\}, \delta, \lambda, p_0)$, where δ and λ are defined in table 5.1.

p	$\delta(p, a)$	$\lambda(p, a)$		$\delta(p, b)$	$\lambda(p, b)$
p_0	p_1	a		p_2	b
p_1	p_0	ϵ		p_4	b
p_2	p_1	cca		p_2	b
p_3	p_1	ca		p_4	b
p_4	p_1	a		p_3	ϵ

Table 5.1

Any input word to S may be written $a^{i_1} b^{j_1} a^{i_2} b^{j_2} \dots a^{i_n} b^{j_n}$, $n \geq 1$, i_1, j_1 , and $j_n \geq 0$, $i_n \geq 1$, and i_m and $j_m \geq 1$ for $2 \leq m < n$. An initial sequence of b 's will appear, followed by cc at the output of S . $a^{i_1} b^{j_1}$, surrounded by either ϵ or b on the left and a on the right, can be considered to be transformed into

⁽¹²⁾The use of this language was first suggested by Joseph Ullian.

$a^{\frac{1}{2}i}b^jcc$ if i is even, $a^{\frac{1}{2}(i+1)}b^{\frac{1}{2}j}c$ if i is odd and j is even, and $a^{\frac{1}{2}(i+1)}b^{\frac{1}{2}(j+1)}$ if both i and j are odd. If a^ib^j is a terminal sequence, the same thing will occur, but without the terminal c 's. Note that when a^ib^j ($i, j \geq 1$) is a terminal sequence, then the final state distinguishes between the cases, i even, i odd and j even, and i and j odd; and if a^i ($i \geq 1$) is a terminal sequence, then the state likewise distinguishes between i even and odd. Thus S is an IL gsm.

Consider $S(L_1^*) = L_7$. Surely L_1^* is a deterministic language. Suppose L_7 were the finite union of deterministic languages. Then $(L_7 \cap a\Sigma^*)/aa^*bb^*$ would be also, by Theorem 1.2, where $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$. But $(L_7 \cap a\Sigma^*)/aa^*bb^* = L_4$, hence L_4 is not the finite union of deterministic languages, by Lemma 4.3. Thus we have exhibited an IL gsm (obviously of infinite order) and a deterministic language mapped by the gsm into a language that is not sbb.

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13 ABSTRACT This report considers two classes of pushdown automata (pda), and the languages accepted by them. These pda accept their languages rapidly because they reread the input word a limited number of times. Hence, such languages are particularly useful as programming languages. The first class, strong bounded backtrack pda, read input words from left to right, and jump from right to left (backtrack). The languages accepted by such automata will be shown to be equivalent to the finite unions of deterministic languages. The second class, weak bounded backtrack an arbitrary number of times. The device reads a word from left to right, simulating the action of the pda. Every time the pda reaches a total configuration (state and pushdown tape) in which it is possible to read another input letter, that configuration is stored. If no move at all is possible in a given configuration, it is erased from storage. Thus one can accept the language with no backtrack without having to keep track of an arbitrary number of possible configurations of the pda. Several results will be shown about each of these classes of pda, including operations that preserve the properties. While these properties are not preserved by all gsm mappings, it will be shown that information lossless gsm's preserve the weak bounded backtrack property, and information lossless gsm's of finite order preserve the strong bounded backtrack property.			

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